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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED
EXAMINING GROUP 1733



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MAY 26 2004

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 7040.0083.00

TC 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Marco NAHMIAS NANNI et al.)
Application Serial No. 09/843,227) Group Art Unit: 1733
Filed: April 27, 2001) Examiner: Johnstone, A.
For: TIRE, INCLUDING FIBER-)
REINFORCED ELASTOMERIC)
INTERMEDIATE LAYER)
BETWEEN THE BELT STRUCTURE)
AND TREAD BAND, AND)
METHOD OF MAKING THE TIRE)

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

The item checked below is attached:

Amendment After Final (20 pages).

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: _____


Lawrence F. Galvin
Reg. No. 44,694

Dated: May 24, 2004



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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In reply to the Final Office Action ("Office Action") mailed March 2, 2004, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS begin on page 16 of this paper.